

### REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-17 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 on the basis that portions of the subject matter were not clearly described in the specification. Specifically, the written description of roller conveyor 4 was not clear, however Figure 1 clearly illustrates the structure of conveyor 4 and shoulders 5. The second paragraph on page 5 and the first full paragraph on page 10 have been amended to more fully illustrate the structure.

Regarding the Examiner's objections to claims 3, 5, 15 and 16 and Examiner's rejection of claims 1-17 on the basis of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, Claims 1, 3-5, 14, and 16 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's objections.

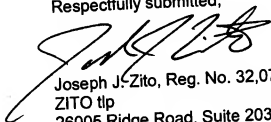
In response to the Examiner's comments that Figures 1 and 2 fail to show the differences between the powered roller conveyor 4 and intermediate rollers 6, said figures have been revised (in conjunction with the preceding clarifications to the Specification) to indicate more clearly the distinction. The powered roller conveyor 4 is now indicated in both Figures 1 and 2 as the *operative entire set* of intermediate rollers 6, all of which collectively form said roller conveyor element of forming machine 1 and serves as the supporting structure for material blanks 2a and semifinished articles 2b.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the specification, drawings and claims made to the application, it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue.

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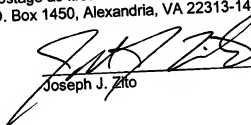
Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, or in the event the Examiner believes a conference would serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 16, 2004.



Joseph J. Zito

11-16-04  
Date

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 1 and

2. The powered roller conveyor 4 is now indicated in both figures.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets for Figures 1 and 2